tly requested for issuing the Letter of Intent in the name of M/s. U.B. Limited.

(b) and (c) A proposal to produce Ranitidine bulk drug with foreign collaboration has since been received in this Ministry.

Productivity per workers in Coal India Limited

2481. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA :
SHRI YASHWANT SINHA :

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the per capita productivity in Coal India Limited has shown an upward trend ;

(b) what steps are being taken to bring the productivity to an acceptable level and also to bring down the cost of production of coal; and

(c) what is the present retail price of coal as compared to 1980 and 1970?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) Yes, Sir. Productivity in Coal India Ltd. has increased from 0.72 tonne in 1980-81 to 1.17 tonnes per manshift in 1988-89.

(b) Some of the major steps being taken to improve productivity and to bring down cost are as follows :

(i) Improved manpower planning including redeployment of surplus workers and restricting the intake of new employees against vacancies caused by natural wastage.

(ii) Control on increase in manpower through voluntary retirement schemes.

(iii) The concept of "all men-all jobs" is being tried on an experimental basis.

(iv) Increase in production and productivity with special emphasis on underground mines.

(v) Improvement in the availability and utilisation of equipment by providing adequate workshop support, improved management of spares and timely rehabilitation of equipments.

(vi) A number of systems improvement and managerial measures have been adopted to improve efficiency of operation.

(c) The retail price of coal in the country varies from place to place depending upon distance from source of supply, transportation charges and other State levies, The average pithead price of coal at the time of nationalisation of coal mines was Rs. 37.50 per tonne. In 1980, the average pithead price was Rs. 101.18 per tonne (as per price revision on 17-7-1979). At present the average pithead price of coal for Coal India sources is Rs. 249/- per tonne.

Power deficit in Southern Grid

2482. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY :
SHRI PASUMPON THA. KIRUTTINAN :

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) what is the deficit in power in Southern grid during the Seventh Plan period ;

(b) what is the estimated shortfall in power generation during the Eighth Plan period ;

(c) how many power projects have been sanctioned for the Southern States for execution during the Eighth Plan period ;